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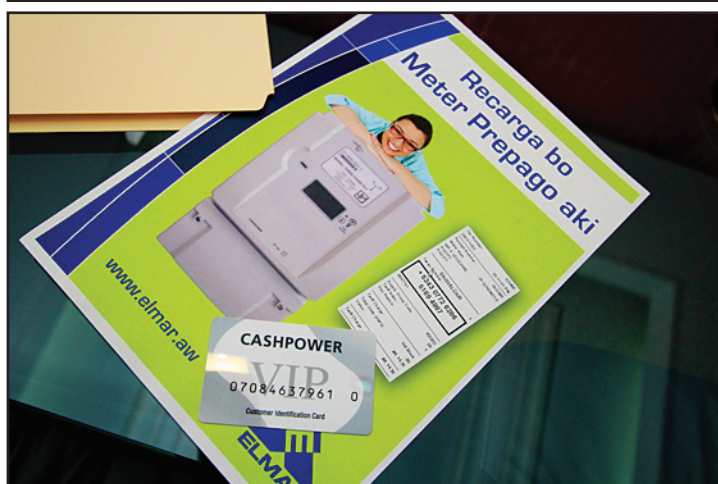
Heat wave sweeps across U.S. Northeast

AFP photo shows a boy playing in a Battery Park fountain in Lower Manhattan on June 21, 2012 in New York. A heat wave continued for a second day in the northeast US as temperatures are forecast to hit 98 degrees F (37 C) in New York.

Hot air -- often in excess of 90 degrees -- stretched from Maine to North Carolina, with the highest temperatures hitting parts of Connecticut, Massachusetts, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Maryland, according to the National Weather Service.



ELMAR's Pre-Paid electric meters are here and ready for installation



Last Wednesday morning Aruba's electric distribution company, N.V. ELMAR, held a special presentation for the Minister of Finance & Energy, Mike de Meza and rep-

resentatives of Utilities Aruba N.V. This presentation was the company's official introduction of their newest product, the pre-paid electric meter. ELMAR announced that they will introduce the pre-paid meter in the Noord and San Nicolaas barrios as a pilot project with the intention of expanding this service the soonest possible to the other districts across the island.

Both the Minister and executives of Utilities Aruba N.V. had different questions and remarks concerning the new meter. They were able to identify the positive benefits of this type of meter. The biggest benefit is that the client will have full control of his personal budget. The client will be able to monitor his own use of electricity both in the Kwh as well as in the investment of money.

ELMAR's executive team presented the operational plan of how these meters will be installed and how they intend to market this new product to their clients.

The Minister and others were impressed by the simple way that the pre-paid meter



functions. Within a matter of days, ELMAR will officially introduce the pre-paid meter to the general public.



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In-depth study of labor market has positive information at first glance

A team from the Bureau of Labor Research, a department within the Labor Administration headed by Director Nick Kock, joined Aruba's Minister of Tourism, Transport & Labor, Otmar Oduber to inform on the results of an in-depth study conducted over the period from October 31, through November 28 2011.

Team members from the Bureau of Labor Research present for the announcement of preliminary findings were Judelca Brinceno, Jason Lejuez, Kindra De Cuba and Anthony Lee, with head of the bureau, Yvonne Lee-Perez, who presented the figures.

Mrs. Lee-Perez and Mr. Kock admitted there is much more analyses to be made of the results by her department to fully interpret the ramifications on Aruban society of landmark actions, such as the closing of the refinery, or the construction of new resorts.

However, the encouraging news from this study was that local unemployment rates showed a decline in 2011 over 2010, confirming a trend projected by the Central Bank of Aruba predicated on the results of the island census conducted by the Central Bureau of Statistics (CBS) in 2010, part of the and worldwide census conducted by the UN every ten



Labor Study team with Department Director Nick Kock

years.

The global financial crisis of 2008-2009 would be expected to be felt here as well, and in 2009 unemployment peaked at 10.6%. The Aruban Resort, now Tropicana, had closed, along with the Valero Refinery, though as is the case at present, Valero employees were kept on salary. However, several sub-contractors to Valero closed their doors or downsized.

2010 showed a lessening of unemployment as these workers moved into other industrial sectors, and the final figures for 2011 show the unemployment rate reduced to 8.9%, which Minister Oduber finds very encouraging.

The study sent a team to canvas 2000 households based

on information from the CBS, which would provide a representational cross section of Aruban society. Final results are based on contact with 1609 of these households, which is considered sufficient information from which to draw accurate conclusions.

The Minister pointed out that compared to other Caribbean nations, such as Curacao, with 9.7 % unemployment and a much larger population, Sint Maarten with

10.2%, Barbados 10.2%, Jamaica, 12.8% and Bahamas with 13.7%, Aruba is faring the current global financial situation better than most. In 2011 the number of unemployed residents was reduced by 15.2%

Mr. Kock stipulated that as the Valero people are still on salary, it is difficult to fully predict the impact of the final and full closure of the refinery. Minister Oduber announced that this first in-depth study or Aruba's labor market will be repeated in another three years, but until then, an annual study will be conducted to determine the unemployment rate on Aruba.

by Rosalie Klein

Wi-Fi Aruba

para una **mayor**
cobertura
sobre la marcha!



Escanear para las Zonas



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Tuesday Daily Raffle \$ 500 - BlackJack Tournament
Wednesday Daily Raffle \$ 500 - Cool Casino - LADIES NIGHT
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Friday BlackJack Tournament
Saturday KOFFIE MORGEN



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We Get Mail



OIL TANKERS

I have been coming to Aruba every year since 1994, every morning before daylight I go for a long walk on the beach, and I look out to sea and it looks like city out there with the lights from the Ships, I was very happy to read in your June 20th addition that the government of Aruba is going to do something about it. Thank you very much for that article.

Dan Tompkins



Where Every One is Welcome

Friday

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\$500

Start 7:30 PM

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Robert Thiel

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Soon Smart Cards will be required to get on Public Busses

Aruba's Public Transportation Busses will soon be equipped with Smart Card facility. The use of Smart Cards will become the primary payment method on these public busses. Arubus informs the public on how the system works.

What is the Arubus Smart Card?

The Smart Card is very similar to an ATM card or a Credit Card. Everyone will receive a personalized photo ID Card. This will prevent anyone

else from using someone else's Card to get onto one of the busses. Smart Cards can be charged with cash which will be stored in the memory of the Card. Upon entering the bus, the Card must be swiped in a reader next to the Chauffeur of the Bus. The reader will read the Card and automatically deduct the amount for the trip.

Smart Cards can be picked up at the main office at Sabana Blanco 67. They will also be available at other locations during the registration cam-

paign to be announced shortly. Smart Cards will be valid for 2 years for everyone. For 60 plussers and school children they will expire after one year.

How to obtain a Smart Card?

In order to get a Smart Card, you will be required to register at Arubus. With a valid ID and photo taken at Arubus, they will prepare and issue the Smart Card. Arubus will go into every barrio with the Smart Card system where everyone wanting the Card could go and register for their Card. In the upcoming registration campaign they will be announcing in which barrios they will be and when. It will always be possible to go directly to the Arubus head office to register and get the Smart Card. There is no charge for the Card. Once made, after showing the ID and getting your photo taken, the Card will be mailed to you.

How to recharge the Smart Card?

The Smart Card will be received with 20 free trips on the Card so that you can begin



using the Card immediately upon receiving it. To continue using the Card, you will have to charge it by depositing money on the Card at any of the recharge stations they will indicate later. There will be posted lists of the recharge locations everywhere, in the newspapers and on television. At one of these locations, simply present the Card and the amount you want to charge to the Card and this will be automatically added to your Card.

In the event your Card does not have sufficient money on it to get on the bus you will be required to pay in cash, which will cost more than if you had swiped your Card. Hence, it is important to always check that you have enough on the Card before getting on to the bus.

How to see what amount is on the Card?

When you step into the bus you can always ask the driver to check the reader for you to

see how much is left on your Card. Also at all recharging stations you can request the attendant to check the reader for your balance.

What to do in the event of an emergency?

* If you lose the Smart Card. Call the Arubus head office immediately (588-2300) to report the lost Card. In the event someone finds it and tries to use it on the bus, the driver will note that the photo doesn't match and will confiscate the Card.

* If your Smart Card breaks or gets damaged because of careless handling, you will be required to pay Afls.25 for a replacement Card. The Smart Card is valid for 2 years and the first issue is free of charge.

* If you encounter whatever problem with your Smart Card during use or in recharging it, you may always call 588-2300 for information.



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Chris becomes season's first Atlantic hurricane

WASHINGTON (AFP) - Tropical Storm Chris has strengthened to become the first Atlantic hurricane of 2012, but is way off the coast of Canada's Newfoundland and

posing no threat to land, US experts said yesterday

The storm was expected to take a turn to the north before heading northwest and west as it weakens today.

THE ORDER OF THE EASTERN STAR

BAKE & SOUP SALE FUNDRAISING

AND FAMILY DAY



Fundraising

Date: Sunday June 24th, 2012
Time: 10:00 am - 2:00 pm
Place: Lodge "El Sol Naciente", Cumana 26
Price: Afl. 7,50 per ticket (including cup of soup and cake)

Family Day Activities

Kids Corner, taken care by Rainbow Girls
Time: 11:00 am - 1:00 pm

Handcraft for the ladies, coordinated by Joanne Matos - Kock
Time: 10:30 am - 12:30 pm

Domino Competition (registration starts at 10:30 am)
Time: 11:00 am - 2:00 pm
(Please bring your domino and table)



Government cuts out red tape for a one-stop-shop experience for investors

This past week, the Aruba Minister of Economic Affairs celebrated together with many invited guests the inauguration of ARINA, the Aruba Investment Agency. ARINA is a brand new department with a very important function, that of attracting more investments from both local and international entrepreneurs.

During the symbolic cutting of the red ribbon, the Minister remarked that the red ribbon which was cut to open the ARINA Bureau symbolizes the "red tape" that has accompanied the long process of establishing a business here. With this new department the red tape must be eliminated to make the process much more simple and efficient on Aruba henceforth. This will be so, obviously within the confines of the law and local rules.

According to the Minister, "Aruba must receive recognition not only as a tourist destination but also as an ideal county to do business. A place where it is easy to do business and where business is successful."

ARINA will present what Aruba has to offer to the local market and in our region. They will also present Aruba to investors who may want to use Aruba as their regional head office or their hub from which they do business in the region.

ARINA must serve as the catalyst between the private and public sectors. This agency will promote Aruba as an investment destination, and will work diligently to attract investors and facilitate the process of acquiring permits and getting established on Aruba.

According to the government, one of the primary goals of ARINA is to have an active role in the diversification of Aruba's economy. Minister Hooyboer- Winklaar also emphasized that Aruba must continue to market herself, define and identify what exactly Aruba wants to develop, then share this with future investors.

Sharon Erasmus, ARINA's director and her team, were praised by the Minister for the work they did in getting the department up and running. The director of World Association of Investment



Promotion Agencies, Carlos Bronzatto, was recognized and thanked for his excellent

cooperation and presence on Aruba for the occasion.

Loyal visitors honored at Marriott Surf Club



Recently ATA representative Marouska Heyliger had the great pleasure in honoring two loyal Aruba families as Distinguished Visitors of Aruba. The honorings are a way to say "Masha Danki" to them for continuously choosing Aruba as their favorite vacation destination. The honorees are Cynthia and Frank Urbani Jr. from Marlborough, Massachusetts and Mark, Robin, Livi and Abby Everly from Frisco, Texas. Both families have been vacationing on Aruba for more than 10 consecutive years.

Mr. and Mrs. Leman honored at Aruba Beach Club



Recently, Mr. Dale and Mrs. Lezlee Leman were honored as Distinguished Visitors of Aruba. They have been visiting out island for 10th consecutive years. Ms. Marouska Heyliger, representing the Aruba Tourism Authority, conducted a small ceremony on their behalf at the Aruba Beach Club and handed them a handsome certificate and a bottle of champagne as a 'thank you gesture.' According to the couple, they love Aruba for its friendly people and delicious food. Picture shows the honorees with Amanda Singh of Aruba Beach Club and ATA rep Marouska Heyliger.



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Divi Resorts is main sponsor of International Beach Tennis Event

With a bold stroke of the pen Mr. Alex Nieuwmeijer of Divi Resorts puts his signature beneath the sponsoring contract between for the Aruba International Beach Tennis Event, which will be held from November 14 - 18, 2012. Divi Resorts is going to be the host hotel for the players: a perfect location, as the tournament will be held at Eagle Beach.

"Divi Resorts is happy to support the event," said Mr. Nieuwmeijer. "Beach tennis is the ultimate sport to promote the island, combining sun, fun and sand with a great sport."

The tournament organization expects more than 600 local and international players to register for the event, which allows participants to play at all levels. The main focus for spectators will lie on the Pro division in which



world-ranked players from Italy, the US, Belgium, Germany, Holland, Brazil, Venezuela and Colombia will showcase their incredible moves in the sand. Expectations for the upcoming tournament are running high, not only for the excellent games that can be watched, but also because of the sizzling, yet

cool 'ambiente' of the super, five-day happening.

Photo shows Divi Resort's Alex Nieuwmeijer putting his signature beneath the sponsoring contract, while Sjoerd de Vries of the organizing committee of the Aruba International Beach Tennis event is smiling happily.

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All served with French Fries or Baked Potato on our famous HOT Stone
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TUESDAY AND FRIDAY: LIVE MUSIC

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Libya 'committed to co-operate with ICC on Seif'

TRIPOLI (AFP) - Libya said yesterday it is committed to cooperating with the International Criminal Court in the case of Seif al-Islam Kadhafi as it seeks to resolve the issue of four detained ICC envoys.

The government "remains committed to cooperate with this court in what relates to the proceedings of the accused Seif al-Islam Kadhafi and his full rights to a defence," interim Prime Minister Abdel Rahim al-Kib said.

Kib told journalists his government hoped to find a solution that "respects Libyan and international laws" in the case of four ICC envoys who were detained after visiting the dead dictator's captured son.

"In return, the Libyan government expects the ICC to guarantee the professional ethics of its delegates who visit Libya, to respect Libyan laws and the sovereignty of the state," he added.

Kib said that the June 6 visit by Australian lawyer Melinda Taylor and three other ICC delegates had been arranged in cooperation with The Hague-based court and had the autho-

risation of the Libyan prosecutor general.

He added that the main purpose of the visit was to give the delegation an opportunity to meet Seif al-Islam in his place of detention in the city of Zintan southwest of Tripoli, and to help him choose a defence lawyer.

"Miss Melinda Taylor handed the accused documents whose contents undermine the national security of Libya," Kib said, reiterating the line taken by other officials.

"The act... is considered an offence punishable by Libya's criminal law.

"The documents have nothing to do with the procedures of the International Criminal Court. And they are not linked in any way with the carrying out of legal consultations related to the case of the accused."

The ICC wants to try Seif, 39, for crimes against humanity during his father's rule. Tripoli insists he should be tried locally, and on May 1 filed a motion challenging the ICC's jurisdiction to try him in The Hague.

Chen says China sanctions against family abating

WASHINGTON (AFP) -- Chen Guangcheng, the blind Chinese activist whose flight to the US embassy in Beijing sparked a major diplomatic incident, said yesterday that sanctions against his family are waning.

"The extraordinary official surveillance and restrictions imposed on my family members who remain in our home village reportedly have started to abate," Chen said in an opinion piece in The Washington Post.

"The county police have even begun to make amends, offering to pay my brother for some of the furniture they broke during the vengeful attack on his family after they discovered my escape," he wrote.

In his article, Chen calls for the release of his nephew Chen Kegui, whom he says was detained on April 26 for defending himself against 30 armed thugs linked to "local officials," during a raid on the family's farmhouse.

Paraguay president Lugo faces impeachment trial

ASUNCION (AFP) - Paraguay's House of Representatives backed a surprise measure yesterday to impeach President Fernando Lugo for "poor performance of his duties" after deadly clashes to evict landless peasants.

The move was approved by 76 votes, with only one lawmaker voting against. A violent confrontation on Friday left at least six police officers and 11 peasant farmers dead when Lugo's security forces tried to remove squatters from a privately-held farm in the country's northeast.

But Lugo fought back, saying in a national address: "I refuse to renounce my functions and vow to abide by the political process with all its consequences."

He said the people's will is "under relentless attack by



Fernando Lugo

groups that are always opposed to change so that the people are the protagonists of democracy."

Lugo also accused his opponents of trying to "rob the people of their supreme decision" when they elected him to

a five-year term in 2008.

But presidential secretary general Miguel Lopez said Lugo "hopes that the time required to prepare his defense will be respected."

Lugo spokesman Ruben Penayo earlier said "the president will, as always, respect the institutions of the state."

Meanwhile in Rio de Janeiro South American nations attending the Rio+20 summit plan to send a ministerial mission to crisis-hit Paraguay to defend democracy, Brazilian Foreign Minister Antonio Patriota said yesterday.

"The presidents of UNASUR agreed to send a mission of foreign ministers which will leave at 7:00 pm from Rio," Patriota said after a meeting of leaders and ministers from the regional bloc.

WikiLeaks: Assange won't move from Ecuador embassy

LONDON (AFP) - WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange will remain inside Ecuador's embassy in London until his case is resolved, in a process that could take "hours or days", a spokesman for the whistleblower website said yesterday.

The vow came after Ecuador's president Rafael Correa said his government would take its time in deciding whether to grant asylum to the Australian anti-secrecy campaigner, who spent a third day holed up in the embassy.

Kristinn Hrafnsson, the main spokesman for WikiLeaks, told reporters after visiting Assange at the embassy across the road from the famous Harrods department store that his colleague was "in good spirits."

"The request is being processed by the Ecuadorian authorities. They are waiting

for information from the UK, the US and the Swedish authorities," Hrafnsson said. "He will stay until this matter is settled."

But he said reports on Wednesday quoting Ecuador's deputy foreign minister Marco Albuja as saying that Correa would give his instructions within 24 hours were "based on a misunderstanding by Australian media."

"It could take hours, it could take days. I have no idea.

I assume that if asylum is not granted then he will leave the embassy and will be arrested," Hrafnsson said.

Assange, 40, turned up in the embassy on Tuesday and sought asylum in a dramatic bid to avoid extradition to Sweden over allegations of rape and sexual assault.

Scotland Yard says Assange has breached his bail conditions and is now subject to arrest if he steps out of the embassy.

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International News

Annan and major powers launch last bid for Syria peace

UNITED NATIONS (AFP) - International envoy Kofi Annan and the major powers have launched a final drive to find a diplomatic solution to the Syria crisis while preparing sanctions and emergency plans for UN observers in the conflict-stricken state.

Annan wants to get Russia, President Bashar al-Assad's last major ally, and the United States, which has called for the Syrian leader to step down, and other key nations behind an effort to bring Assad into talks, diplomats and officials said.

The UN-Arab League envoy hopes to unveil his new plan at a meeting in Geneva on June 30, according to UN diplomats.

Annan held talks with Britain's Foreign Secretary William Hague in London on Thursday and Hague said it was "urgent" to hold a Syria

meeting soon.

UN leader Ban Ki-moon discussed Syria on the sidelines of a UN summit in Brazil with Iran's President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, whose country also has influence on Assad, and China's Premier Wen Jiabao, a UN spokesman said.

US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, who spoke with Annan on Wednesday, said the envoy is working on a "political transition roadmap" for Syria, where activists say 15 months of conflict have left more than 15,000 people dead.

Annan would be making a proposal to Russia, Turkey and other interested groups "to try to get them to agree on this roadmap" and to put pressure on Assad and the Syrian opposition, Clinton told reporters.

Prosecutors want insanity verdict for Breivik

OSLO (AFP) - Anders Behring Breivik, who killed 77 people in Norway last July, should be locked up in a

psychiatric ward instead of prison, the prosecution said Thursday, arguing his sanity had not been proven beyond a reasonable doubt.

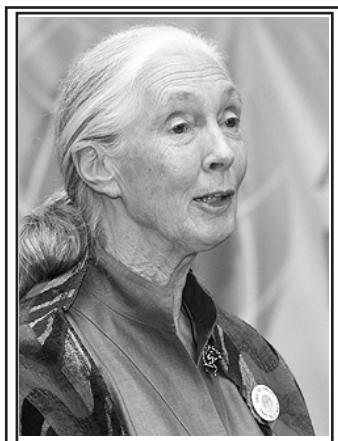
"Our request is that he be obliged to undergo psychiatric treatment" in a closed unit, prosecutor Svein Holden said, wrapping up the prosecution's three-hour closing arguments on the next-to-last day of the trial.

He added though that if the Oslo district court's five judges instead opted to find Breivik criminally sane, they should sentence him to Norway's harshest penalty: 21 years in prison, but with the possibility to extend the sentence for as long as he is considered a danger to society.

In defiance of Holden, the 33-year-old rightwing extremist stood up and touched a clenched right fist to his chest before stretching his arm out in a nationalist salute he had made on the first days of his trial in April but had stopped doing at the request of his lawyers.

Breivik is intent on being found sane to ensure his Islamophobic ideology is not written off as a crazy rant.

The five judges are expected to announce their verdict on either July 20 or August 24.



BRAZIL, Rio de Janeiro : British primatologist, ethologist, anthropologist, and UN Messenger of Peace Jane Goodall speaks during the "Avoided Deforestation" event, within the framework of the UN Conference on Sustainable Development, Rio+20, in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, on June 21, 2012. World leaders attending the UN summit in Rio weighed steps to root out poverty and protect the environment as thousands of activists held several protests to denounce Amazon rainforest deforestation, the plight of indigenous peoples and the "green economy" being advocated at the UN gathering. AFP PHOTO / ZULMAIR ROCHA

Spoela Krijt School is out!!

All teachers are invited to shake chalk off at El Gaucho

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Top court quashes US broadcast indecency rules

WASHINGTON (AFP) - The Supreme Court on Thursday invalidated fines leveled for a blurted broadcasting of curse words and TV series' bare buttocks shots, effectively quashing American TV indecency standards.

The justices said in a unanimous 8-0 decision that the Federal Communications Commission (FCC)'s policy against vulgarity on television was "vague" and threw out fines against TV networks Fox and ABC.

"Because the FCC failed to give Fox or ABC fair notice prior to the broadcasts in question that fleeting expletives and momentary nudity could be found actionably indecent, the commissions' standards as applied to these broadcasts were vague," the Supreme Court said in its ruling.

The court, however, said that the FCC is "free to modify its current indecency policy" in light of the ruling.

Pelosi: Republicans attack Holder for voter suppression

WASHINGTON (AFP) - The top US House Democrat warned Thursday that Republican lawmakers were "frivolously" going after Attorney General Eric Holder in a bid to suppress votes ahead of November's general election.

A House panel voted along party lines Wednesday to hold Holder in contempt for failing to turn over documents linked to a failed gun-smuggling probe.

Minority Leader Nancy

Pelosi said she was alarmed that Republicans were using "contempt of Congress to frivolously use that really important vehicle to undermine the person who is assigned to stop the voter suppression in our country."

"It is no coincidence. It is a plan on the part of Republicans" to monopolize Holder's time and "undermine his name" in the midst of a presidential campaign in which some states are grappling with claims of voter suppression efforts.

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Health & Living

Zimbabwe lawmakers get tested for HIV



HARARE (AFP) - Dozens of Zimbabwean lawmakers on Thursday underwent HIV tests at parliament, with many pledging to undergo circumcision the following day, at the start of a new anti-AIDS campaign.

At least 60 members of parliament from the country's two main political parties took turns to receive counselling, before getting tested in a makeshift clinic set up inside the parliament building.

"Tomorrow we will proceed with circumcision. So far about 60 MPs have been tested," said Patience Dube, spokeswoman for Population Services International, the organisation conducting the tests.

Zimbabwe has made gains in fighting HIV, which infected 14 percent of the population in 2009, down from 23 percent in

2003, according to the United Nations.

"The response has been very overwhelming as the MPs came out in large numbers," said Dube.

More lawmakers were expected to undergo tests on Friday when they take the campaign to a public square in the capital.

Blessing Chebundo, a lawmaker from Prime Minister Morgan Tsvangirai's party, said taking part in the campaign was his way of leading from the front.

"By knowing my status, I am trying to fight discrimination. What we are doing here is unique," said Chebundo.

Zimbabwe has 1.1 million people living with HIV, including 150,000 children, according to the National AIDS Council.

"I tested negative and I am very happy. The sad thing is that although women MPs are here in full force, our male counterparts have been slow in having tests," said Sarah Mahoka, a lawmaker from President Robert Mugabe's party.

In March, Mugabe told parliament that some of his political allies had died of AIDS, in a rare open talk about the disease.

Vietnam law bans smoking in public

(AFP) - Vietnam has passed a law banning smoking in public places and all tobacco advertising.

The law, passed by 440 out of 468 national assembly deputies this week, also makes it illegal to sell tobacco products to anyone under 18 years old, said the parliamentary official, who did not want to be named.

Smoking in public places - including schools, hospitals, office buildings and on public transport -- was banned once already in 2010 by a government decree, which also raised tax on tobacco and restricted the sale of cigarettes.

But that order was widely ignored, with smoking in public places widespread and cigarettes available at small kiosks on nearly every street



in the capital Hanoi.

The anti-smoking campaign group Southeast Asia Tobacco Control Alliance (SEATCA) welcomed the new law -- the full text of which has not yet been released -- saying it was a "historic and important

milestone" for the country.

"We are very happy about this development," SEATCA director Bungon Ritthiphakdee said, adding that the final version of the law was strong and in line with the WHO-Framework Convention on Tobacco Control.

According to SEATCA, there are currently 15.3 million smokers in Vietnam. Some 47.4 percent of adult males smoke.

Tobacco kills 40,000 people per year in Vietnam and that figure is expected to rise to 70,000 per year by 2030, according to local media reports.

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Sci-Tech

Rio+20: Aruba To Turn Off the Fossil Fuel Switch



Aruba's government, led by Prime Minister Mike Eman, announced ON June 19 at the Rio+20 Conference that the country is partnering with the Carbon War Room (CWR) to transition to an energy portfolio of 100 percent renewables. CWR, one of Richard Branson's many sustainability initiatives, will also work with the New America Foundation to design and implement a strategy that could transform Aruba into the first country entirely free of fossil fuels.

For Aruba and its 107,000 citizens, such a bold proposal is an opportunity to improve their standard of living, already relatively high for the Caribbean and Latin America. But despite its overall success, Aruba has endured periods of high deficit spending and inflation, and the volatile energy prices can undercut Aruba's economy at any moment. Once an oil producer, Aruba now produces 20 percent of its energy via solar and wind power, but must import the rest of its energy. The partnership with CWR, if possible, could become a model of how countries can succeed on their quest for energy independence.

According to CWR, Aruba's sustainable growth model will include the following action areas:

Agriculture: Like many Caribbean nations, Aruba imports almost 100 percent of its food, adding drastically to its carbon footprint and dependence on fossil fuels. The CWR plan would research the viability of reviving

Aruba's once-marginal farming sector without causing water shortages. Currently Aruba desalinates 100 percent of its water, and hence this sector would have to overcome another hurdle.

Energy efficiency: As part of an urban renewal plan, the current government would develop strategies to weatherize homes, retrofit commercial buildings and research the potential for smart grid technologies. Could Jeju Island in Korea be a model for Aruba?

Expand renewables: Since all of Aruba's petroleum is imported, its high price on Aruba actually makes the expansion of solar and wind a cost-effective solution. Other Caribbean islands have found success through harvesting the most effective means of clean energy sources. Aruba's abundant sun is one key towards weaning the island away from fossil fuels.

Sustainable Tourism: The Americans, Europeans and Venezuelans who flock to Aruba's all-inclusive resorts and white sandy beaches have been both a boom, and a painful bane for the island. CWR and Aruba's government will tackle the tough balance of developing more eco-friendly tourism while maintaining Aruba's destination as a friendly destination for visitors. The challenge is huge: the point of vacations for most tourists is to behave in a way that they would not at home. Sustainability will have to be at the core of Aruba's pitch for those tourism dollars.

Transportation: Tourists

are often resort-bound, but CWR and Aruba's tourism board would work on strategies to make Aruba a more walkable environment. New low emission technologies and emission reduction strategies would also reduce Aruba's dependence on fossil fuels while cleaning the air.

CWR's vision was announced today in Rio de Janeiro at a joint appearance of PM Eman and Sir Richard Branson. The Aruba government will find ways to attract technologies companies that could help make this vision for Aruba a reality. Besides Branson's involvement, the plan seeks additional funding that could eventually spark private investment.

Samsung launches new phone in US, taking on Apple

(AFP) - Samsung launched its Galaxy S III smartphone in the United States Thursday after fending off a legal challenge from rival Apple, which claimed it infringed on iPhone technology.

The phone, which uses the Android operating system, received generally positive reviews but analysts said it may not be an "iPhone killer" for the South Korean manufacturer that leads the global mobile phone market.

Apple and Samsung are fighting patent battles in more than half a dozen countries. Each company accuses the other of infringing on patented technology in smartphones or tablets.

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But Apple last week backed away from a bid for a temporary restraining order to block the import of the Galaxy S III into the United States, even though the patent case is still pending in a California federal court.

The newest Galaxy is being offered by several US carriers, and Samsung hopes to win over some loyal iPhone owners with the smartphone's features.

The Galaxy S III has so far been launched in more than two dozen countries, mainly in Europe and the Middle East. It will be available in 145 nations by July.

The third version of the Galaxy S series offers face-

recognition technology and improved voice-activated controls as well as a more powerful processor that lets users watch video and write emails simultaneously.

It can detect eye movements and override the phone's automatic shutdown if the user is looking at the screen.

Samsung is now pinning its hopes on the S III to further erode its rivals' market share before the expected new version of Apple's iPhone 5 this year.

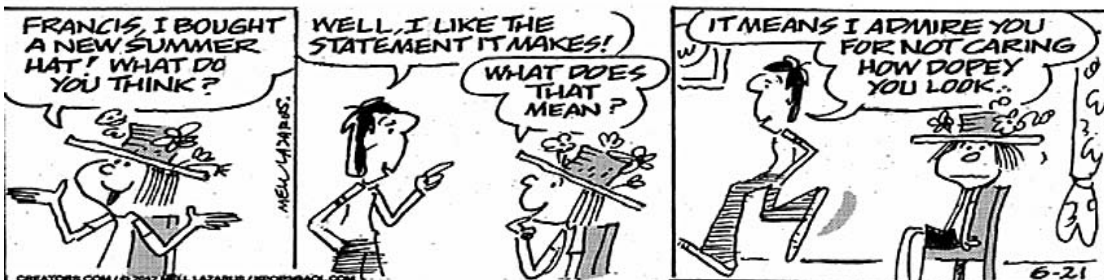
More competition will be coming from new Windows-based phones, and Google is expected to expand its offerings though its newly acquired Motorola Mobility.

COMICS

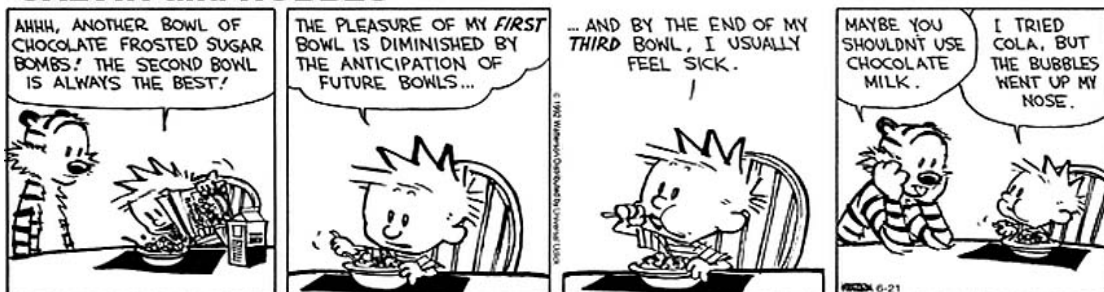
PICKLES



MOMMA



CALVIN and HOBBS



CROSSWORD

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ACROSS

1. Nile snake
4. Karate ____
8. Baseball player's topper
11. Very fashionable
13. Hawaiian island
14. "Are you a man ____ mouse?" (2 wds.)
15. Author Rendell
16. Dryer fuzz
17. None whatsoever
18. Involve
20. Fixes a squeak
22. Ran
24. ____ and crannies
27. Pittsburgh football player
30. Lose one's footing
31. Bandleader Kyser
32. Trims hair
35. Summer (Fr.)
36. Frozen desserts
38. Trudged
40. Theme
42. Equivalent
43. Departure
45. Bank clerk
49. He took the reins from HST
51. ____ one's teeth

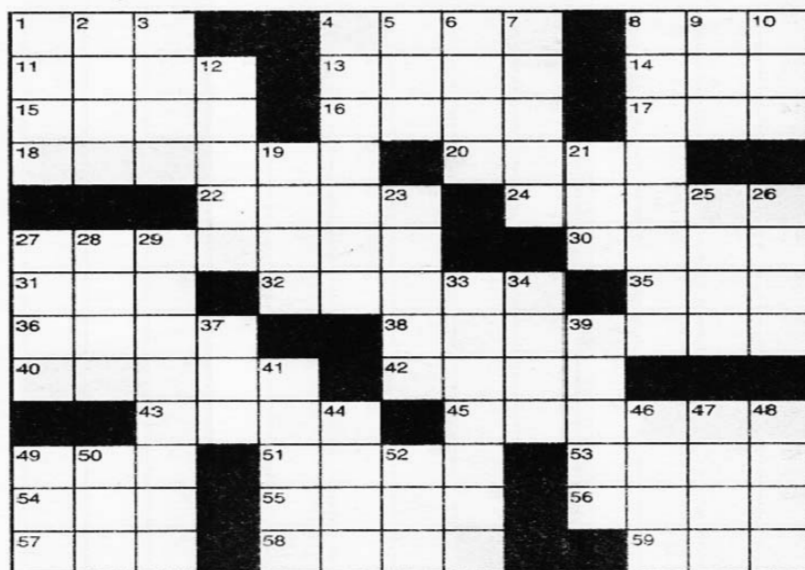
53. Folk wisdom
54. In's opposite
55. Actor Cronyn
56. Lemon or Dover
57. "Hush!"
58. Weeper's droplet
59. Slugger Williams

DOWN

1. Land parcel
2. Snub socially
3. Jolie's man
4. Irish lass
5. "Bali ____"
6. Cry of dismay (2 wds.)
7. ____ a good

- word for (2 wds.)
8. Commiserated with
9. Onassis's nickname
10. Good buddy
12. Irritate the skin
19. Misfortunes
21. ____ Gatos
23. Sink problems
25. High-flying toy
26. Went swiftly
27. Pass over lightly
28. Cantina snack

29. Certain canines
33. Dish for a roast
34. Small amount
37. Half dozen
39. Small valleys
41. Engage in battle
44. Faithful
46. Money from a heist
47. Writer Stanley Gardner
48. Sax-player's need
49. It follows uno
50. Teen's retort
52. "____ Believer" (2 wds.)



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and Drug Addiction
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SOS TELEAYUDO SOS
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Fri.-Sun. 9 p.m.-2 a.m.

CAS MARIE
Alzheimer's Day
Care Center
Tel: 5696910

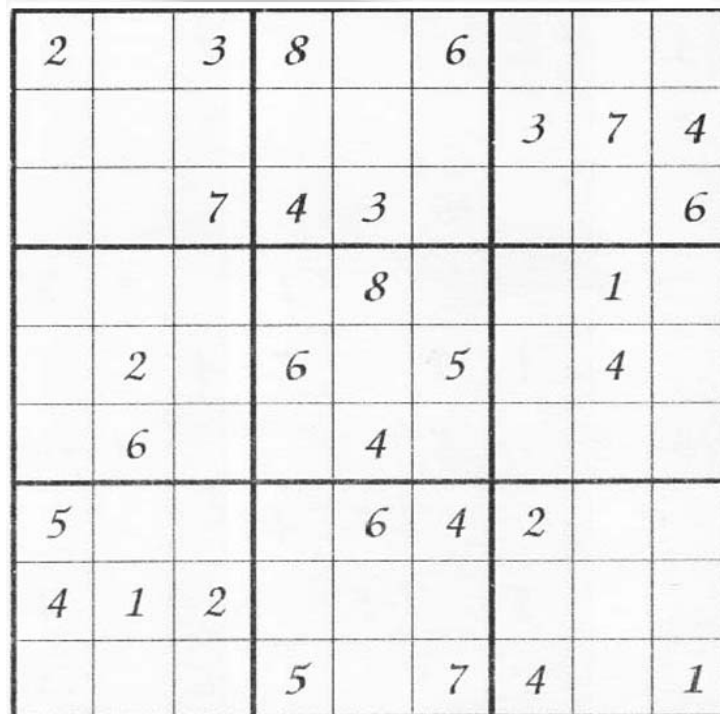
Important
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Numbers

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Horacio Oduber Hospital
Tel. 5274000
EMERGENCY
Telephone 911
POLICE HDQS
Telephone 100

TAXI
C.V. TAS
587-1998, 587-5900
In Oranjestad:
Tel. 582-2116, 582-1604
582-5447
In San Nicolas
Tel. 584-5160, 584-6602
professional taxi services
Tel. 588-0035

Al Anon Meetings
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Sabana Liber 8 in Noord
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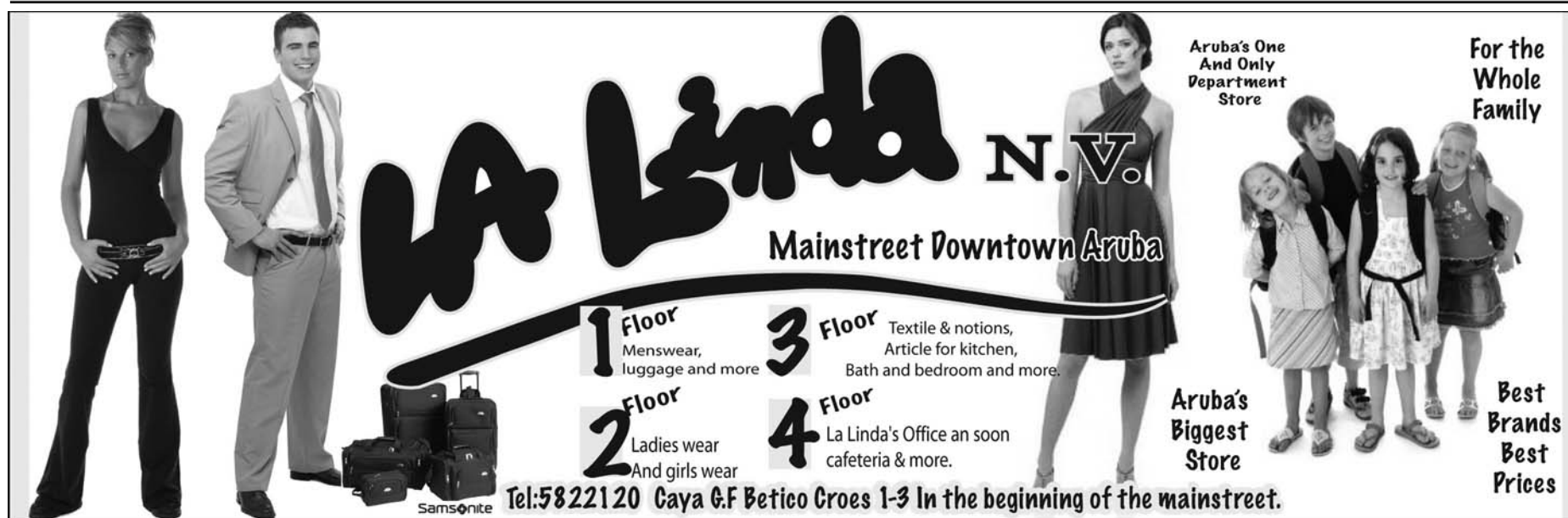
Sudoku



SOLUTION

1	6	4	2	5	9	8	7	3
2	9	5	8	6	7	3	1	4
3	8	7	9	1	6	5	4	2
4	8	6	5	1	9	8	2	7
5	1	9	2	8	7	4	6	3
6	2	8	1	9	4	7	5	6
7	4	6	5	2	1	8	9	3
8	5	1	9	4	8	7	3	2

Complete the grid so that every row and every column contains the numbers 1 through 9
A number is Never repeated in a row or column.
In addition every rectangle must contain the numbers 1 through 9



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FINANCE

Spain says stricken banks need up to 62 billion euros

MADRID (AFP) - Spain announced yesterday its crisis-torn banks need up to 62 billion euros (\$78 billion) to survive a severe financial slump, well within the scope of a vast eurozone rescue loan.

Spain released the results of two banking audits just days before formally requesting a eurozone loan of up to 100 billion euros for banks hammered by a 2008 property market crash.

The audits, one by the German firm Roland Berger, the other from the US firm Oliver Wyman, tested 14 top banking groups in a likely "baseline" scenario and a "stressed" outcome of a slumping economy and real estate sector.

They found that in a stressed scenario lasting three years, the banks would need 51-62 billion euros in extra capital. In a baseline case they would need 16-26 billion euros.

On the eve of the audit's release, Fitch Ratings said it estimated the Spanish banks' capital needs at 50-60 billion euros in a base case and 90-100 billion euros in a scenario

similar to the Irish crisis.

Fitch, however, said it did not actually expect Spanish banks' credit losses to be as high as those in Ireland.

"I am wondering really whether markets are going to find these figures sufficiently credible," said Edward Hugh, independent economist based in Barcelona.

"Markets are going to wonder especially if we are looking at a three-year term whether this has gone far enough."

Bank of Spain deputy governor Fernando Restoy, presenting the audits to journalists, said the stressed scenario assumed a 6.5-percent slump in activity, a 26.4-percent dive in home prices and an 85-90-percent collapse in land prices.

"The agreed figure of 100 billion euros gives us ample margin," the central bank official said.

The audit did not break down the capital needs of individual banks, but the evidence indicated that the extra money would be concentrated in banks already being helped by the state-backed bank restructuring fund, he said.

Air France to shed over 5,000 jobs by 2014

PARIS (AFP) - Air France said yesterday it is to slash over 5,000 jobs or around 10 percent of its workforce in voluntary departures by 2014 as part of a vast plan to make the struggling French airline profitable.

A total of 5,122 jobs will be shed and the carrier said in a statement that all departures would be voluntary provided a new framework agreement can be signed with unions.

"Air France has chosen to work in complete transparency and to privilege social dialogue to find structural and sustainable solutions, included in corporate agreements," it said.

If new agreements are signed by staff then "Air France has pledged not to make redundancies and to implement various measures to support the necessary reduc-

tion in staff numbers," it said.

The Franco-Dutch carrier Air France-KLM has launched a major cost-saving program after posting a loss of 809 million euros (\$1.0 billion) for 2011 and a first quarter net loss in 2012 of 368 million euros.

Union leaders warned that major job cuts were unlikely to receive backing from the workforce if there were no further guarantees that the company would not resort to layoffs.

"This does not satisfy us. We want a formal undertaking on the entire plan," or guaranteeing jobs up to 2015, said Michel Salomon of the CFDT union.

Air France-KLM CEO Alexandre de Juniac however said he was confident that the plan would move forward swiftly. "As recently as this morning, the unions showed a

remarkably responsible spirit," he said at a press conference.

Shares in Air France-KLM, one of the world's largest airlines in which the French state holds a 15 percent stake, shot up by over 7.0 percent after the job cuts announcement.

The group said that the new framework agreement is "a major condition of the company's recovery" and the carrier needs to increase economic efficiency by 20 percent by the end of 2014.

Adidas eyes record sales on Euro 2012 shirts

WARSAW (AFP) - German sports equipment firm Adidas said yesterday it was likely to score record sales this year due to the European football championships as fans defy the recession to snap up replica shirts.

Adidas boss Herbert Hainer told reporters here that the firm was likely to book sales of more than 1.6 billion euros (\$2.0 billion) in football shirts alone this year, smashing the previous record set during the 2010 World Cup.

The firm's total sales, including its Reebok and Taylor-Made golf brands, amounted to 13 billion euros last year.

Even in crisis-wracked Spain, Adidas has sold nearly one million replica shirts of the Spanish team, one of the favourites to win the tournament, a result Hainer described as a "surprise."

"We all know that the Span-

ish economy is not in the best situation," he said.

In Germany, the other main favourite, the better economic position also appears to have translated into shirt sales. With more than one million sold, it is "the bestselling shirt in the history of the brand," said Hainer.

Adidas is also supplying the ball for the championship and expects to break records in this segment as well, with around seven million likely to be sold.

Of the eight teams currently left in the competition, Adidas supplies three of the shirts (Germany, Spain, Greece), Nike two (Portugal and France), Puma two (Czech Republic and Italy) and Umbro sponsors England.

Hainer said he was hoping for a Spain-Germany final, as this would further boost replica shirt sales.

Mexico's America Movil raises stake in Dutch KPN to 20.9%

THE HAGUE (AFP) - Mexican telecoms giant America Movil announced yesterday it has raised its stake in Dutch firm KPN to 20.9 percent as part of an unsolicited offer.

"As a result of the transactions entered into today, both in and outside regular market trading," America Movil will hold more than 299 million ordinary shares in KPN "representing a capital interest of 20.92 percent" in the Dutch group, it said in a statement.

YESTERDAY'S Crossword Answer

TBA APR LAOS
YES WWII EXPO
PEP OLES SLID
EPSOM SETTEES
KEN SHE
EDASNER ORBIT
DIG BAA ALA
SPECK WRIGGLE
HIP TRI
BARONET AGLOW
UNUM SHAQ EVE
SNIP TAXI VEE
TENS OWE IRK

Daily Exchange Rates				
Current as of: 06/21/2012	Currency Code	Buying rate banknotes	Buying Cheques	Selling Rate
U.S.A.	USD	1.77	1.78	1.80
Dutch Antilles	ANG	98.00	100.00	100.20
Canada	CAD	1.73	1.75	1.77
Britain	GBP	2.73	2.78	2.84
Switzerland	CHF	187.72	188.44	189.24
Netherlands	EUR	223.62	225.66	227.93
Sweden	SEK	24.55	25.27	26.07
Denmark	DKK	29.39	30.11	30.91
Norway	NOK	29.14	29.86	30.66
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Painting of Picasso's pregnant lover sells for £8.5m

LONDON (AFP) - Pablo Picasso's 'Femme assise', which depicts the Spanish artist's lover Françoise Gilot while heavily pregnant with their daughter Paloma, sold for over £8 million at a London auction on Wednesday.

The Impressionist and Modern Art Evening Sale at Christie's realised £92,583,550 (\$145,541,340, 114,618,435 euros) in total with the 1949 Picasso work topping the public lots after going under the hammer for £8,553,250.

Gilot was aged 21 when she met Picasso, then 61, in a restaurant in the spring of 1943.

The couple never married but had two children together. Their son, Claude, was born in 1947 while Paloma was born in 1949.

The evening's most anticipated work, Pierre-Auguste

Renoir's 1888 'Baigneuse', was sold privately before the auction.

'Les jours gigantesques' by René Magritte smashed pre-sale expectations after selling for £7,209,250, the second highest price for the artist at auction.

"There were particularly notable prices for Surrealist works, reflecting the current fervour for this field," said Jay Vincze, Christie's International Director.

"These were led by Magritte's 'Les jours gigantesques' which sparked a fierce battle between 10 bidders and which sold for almost five times its high estimate," he added.

There were also artist records set for Italian painter and printmaker Giorgio Morandi and German painter Kurt Schwitters.

GENTE
Y LA ACTUALIDAD

"Si voy a Cartagena gano la corona", dice la transexual, doble de Carolina Cruz

Danna Sultana

El Kamasutra para católicos
Cómo tener un SEXO DIVINO
Un sacerdote es el guía

Rodrigo Obregón
Papá primerizo a los 60 y de CUATRILLIZOS

Isabel II
Reina por pura chiripa

Shakira

EMBARAZADA

El bebé nacerá a comienzos de 2013.
La pareja se enteró estando en Ibiza.
Por lo pronto, no habrá boda

La rusa que vive en Chocó enamorada del Gobernador

El Procurador ¿Por qué reza tanto?
Se confiesa con Eva Rey

Historia nunca antes contada
El tipo de Rodrigo Lara Bonilla

Shakira is pregnant, according to a Colombian magazine. The sexy Colombian singer, 35, was featured on the cover of Gente magazine's June issue, entitled "Shakira Pregnant." According to the report Shakira is six weeks into her pregnancy and is waiting for the right moment to make the news public. Her boyfriend, Spanish soccer star Gerard Piqué, is the father. Mexican tabloids have also reported that Shakira is pregnant but that she is keeping the news to herself because she is suffering from a rare illness that increases the risk of miscarriage. The celebrity site TV Notas reports that Shakira has Toxoplasmosis, an infection caused by eating raw or undercooked meat or carelessly handling the litter of contaminated cats. Shakira and Piqué went public with their relationship in March 2011.

Paris to launch low cost funerals

PARIS (AFP) - The city of Paris is launching low cost funeral services from next month but will not skimp on quality for the final journey, officials said Thursday. "Funerals are very expensive.... costing 3,098 euros (around \$4,000) on average," said Marinette Bache, the head of the city's funeral services, adding that it's cheapest offer would be 789 euros before taxes. The package comprises charges for a coffin, headstone and hearse and does not include charges for a final resting place and the actual burial costs, she said. The service will be launched on July 2. "We will ensure quality service with the same vehicles, the same personnel used in classic services ... the coffins are of very good quality of solid pine," said Francois Michaud Nerard, another official.

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Donations go viral for bullied US bus monitor

NEW YORK (AFP) - A 10-minute video of an elderly school bus monitor in New York state jeered by cussing children has provoked outrage and online fundraising that will now pay her \$176,000 for a vacation.

In the video, shot on a cell phone on Monday and posted subsequently on Facebook and YouTube, Karen Klein tries her best to ignore taunts such as "fat ass" and "asshole" from kids in the town of Greece, near Rochester.

The 12- and 13-year-olds tease the 68-year-old grandmother of eight about her weight, her hearing aid, her hairdo. One leans in and says he will "piss on your door," while others make rude gestures and laugh.

Klein did not report the harassment but the video -- captured by a kid on the Greece Athena Middle School bus -- was viewed by more than two million people online and led to an outpouring of support for the bullied monitor.

Fundraising website indiegogo.com started accepting donations, aiming to raise \$5,000 to send Klein on a vacation. By Thursday morning, it had collected a whopping \$176,000 from more than 8,800 people.

Klein told broadcaster NBC that this incident, which came at the end of the school year, was not the first time she had been picked on by the children. "They just could be really nasty," she said.

"I want the boys punished but I don't know how."

She said she is "amazed" by the support she has received. "I've got, I don't know, the nicest letters, emails, Facebook messages. And it's like, wow, there's a whole world out there that I didn't know. It's just really awesome."

Gold Coast Aruba: Great savings for large families on holiday rentals



Aruba's newest and most innovative gated community has enjoyed steady sales since breaking ground, as many are finding the secure surroundings and outstanding amenities are just what they were looking for before considering purchasing property on the island. Some owners are using the villas or town homes as vacation retreats rather than full time and are taking advantage of Gold Coast's rental services to turn their investment into ready income.

"The greater portion of home owners are using their 'home away from home' in Aruba to escape the winter months, or spend holidays with the family on the island," noted Gold Coast developer Fito Croes. To assist in the demand for more complete facilities for groups and families, famed hotelier Ed Malone has been placed in charge of the rental program.

Staying at Gold Coast is a very attractive proposition for those traveling with groups that would require multiple hotel rooms. Two and three bedroom Villas or Town Homes accommodate large numbers and offer extensive amenities along with a final cost resulting in considerable savings. The community is minutes to the best beaches and all the casino action, and offers a quiet and secluded getaway with two swimming pools and specialized services with more on the way, such as a fitness room, tennis courts and mini-mall. Ed can arrange maid service, babysitters, caterers, airline pick-up

and drop-off; they even boast a shopping service to stock your shelves before arrival.

Gold Coast accommodations are elegant and spacious, offering privacy for parents or a few couples.



Beautifully appointed kitchens and bathrooms grace each abode; barbecues and lounges are provided for friendly cookouts and truly savoring the island life. All homes come with cable TV,

high-speed fiber-optic Internet connection, individual washer/dryer, and are fully air-conditioned. Cribs, high chairs and hair dryers are available for a modest fee. Concierge services to arrange

rental cars, spa appointments, activities and restaurant reservations are all part of the package.

Check-in for your holiday escape is conducted in the comfort of your vacation home, not while waiting on line at check-in desk. In every way, Gold Coast seeks to pamper their guests while providing them with the feeling of being in a cozy community, not the normally bustling resort, particularly experienced during the major holidays. If you wish an optimal vacation experience with great savings, visit their website: www.goldcoastaruba.com to get acquainted with the community and the layout, details and availability of accommodations, or call 586-2200 to talk personally to a Gold Coast representative.



Adorable and affordable; 5 Burgers Aruba offers an island twist to the great American Burger

Expatriates from Boston, Massachusetts, residing on Aruba, Aaron and Rosie Walisever are living their dream: a home on paradise while welcoming all and sundry to their proud undertaking, 5 Burgers Aruba. Some may be quite well acquainted with a nationally known U.S. franchise bearing the name "5", and patrons can expect the same great quality between the buns, but an expanded menu and Rosie and Aaron's fanatical dedication to giving their customers what they really want has resulted in a unique menu.



Rosie and Aaron love their Burger too



Gouda Burger 2

"You never get a second chance to make a first impression," comments Aaron; and upon entering 5 Burgers Aruba in The Village Mall in Palm Beach, one is struck by utterly spotless surroundings and a smiling, friendly, attentive service crew. Of course, the main item on the menu is burgers-the way they were meant to be, thick and juicy, made fresh daily and 100% pure beef, the kind that made the hamburger a traditional American treat.

Prices vary only slightly between regular and small (basically 2 patties or 1) with specialty items such as Gouda Burger, Farmer's Burger, Man Burger (almost 12 ounces of choice beef), and a Western Burger with crispy onion rings and BBQ sauce. All of these can be personalized with an incredible array of toppings, (mushrooms, jalapeño peppers, bacon, cheese, lettuce, tomato... whatever the list goes on) at absolutely no extra cost.

5 Burger portions are ENORMOUS! Aaron suggests that even their small serving of fries, which are made from hand-cut fresh

Idaho potatoes, is enough to be shared by two. He was very amused to watch a famous French chef demonstrating the best way to make fried potatoes on a gourmet cooking show and could only comment "He stole my recipe!" Try them the English way-with vinegar, and you'll wonder how you ever ate fries without it. This same 5-star chef also swears by Gouda as the best topping for the ideal gourmet cheeseburger.

If you are a fan of crispy friend onion rings, as we are at THE MORNING NEWS, you cannot leave there without trying their secret recipe batter-dipped gourmet rings, made from fresh, not frozen onions. Unquestionably, the best we have had anywhere, and for those that like a little spice, the fried jalapeños are a real treat. Aaron and Rosie have expanded their menu to accommodate certain tastes and dietary needs; they offer a tasty grilled chicken sandwich as well.

5 Burgers Aruba is open for lunch & dinner - daily hours are Noon to 10-ish; delivery is available to both the high-rise and low-rise hotel and beach district for orders over \$50. Enjoy a great lunch without ever leaving the beach by calling 586-3904. However, we suggest you stop by and enjoy their authentic, heartfelt hospitality; it is not unusual for the owners when things are not too busy, to sit and chat while sharing their knowledge of the island. Totally yummy and fun plus a great deal for a quality burger, they are definitely worth a visit



EURO 2012 - POLAND - UKRAINE

June 8 - July 1



Loew wants killer instinct for survivors Greece



LVIV : Danish defender Simon Poulsen (R) vies with German midfielder Mesut Oezil during the match Denmark vs. Germany, on June 17.
AFP PHOTO

GDANSK (AFP) - Coach Joachim Loew has said he wants Germany to show a "killer instinct" and take their chances against "survival-experts" Greece in Friday's Euro 2012 quarter-final.

Having inflicted a shock 1-0 defeat on Russia last Saturday, Greece come to Arena Gdansk as Group A runners-up with a reputation for tough defending and effective counter-attacking football as they look to claim the Germans' scalp.

The Germans - who are seeking their first trophy in 16 years - are the only team with a 100 percent record, having breezed through the qualifying rounds with 10 wins from 10 games, but Greece are eager to tear up the form book.

After conceding an equaliser to Denmark in Sunday's final group game, the Germans needed an 88th-minute winner to seal a 2-1 victory and Loew has said his team must take their chances and learn from the Danish game.

Especially as Fernando Santos' Greece showed their traditional resilience against Russia and are aiming to emulate their Euro 2004 final victory against Portugal.

"It will be a very tight match, because the Greeks aren't a team that you can rip apart easily," said the 52-year-old after his team beat Portugal, Holland and Denmark in Group B.

"For a quarter-final, you have to fight for everything.

"If we run a lot and play at a high tempo, we will get our chances in the last third of the pitch.

"Against Denmark, we had a few chances, but didn't take them, which caused us a few

problems, so against the Greeks it is very important to have a killer instinct.

"We will be hitting a rock and they will be strong in defence, but we will find ways to create chances.

Loew said he expects Santos' team to hit the Germans hard on the break and pack their defence around the penalty area.

"I think the Greeks will not want to concede and will take their chances on the counter-attack, but our chances will come if we take an early lead," said Loew, who stepped up from being Jurgen Klinsmann's assistant at the 2006 World Cup to replace him

when he stepped down after those finals.

"Sometimes we have to play with pressure, but there will be times when there will be 10 players packed around the penalty area.

"We have to have a bit of patience to get those chances."

Having finished second at Euro 2008 and finished third at the last two World Cups, Germany are considered one of the favourites to win the trophy, but Loew insists the 'favourites' tag is worthless in the knock-out phase.

"The knock-out games have their own character and it doesn't mean the favourite goes through automatically to the next round," he said.

"We thought the Russians were the big favourites against the Greeks, but we all saw what happened there.

"I think when the match starts, what anyone has said or written doesn't play a role.

"If we play to our strengths, keep faith in our own quality and play our own game, then we are strong enough to beat the Greeks.

"We don't have to look at our opponent, we need to look at our own game.

"Over the 90 minutes, we have to stick to what we are good at and if we do that, we will leave the pitch as the victorious team."

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Quarter-Finals

THU, JUNE 21, 2:45 P.M.

PORTUGAL 1
vs.
Czech Rep. 0



Quarter-Finals

FRI, JUNE 22, 2:45 P.M.

GERMANY
vs.
GREECE

SEMI-FINALS

WED. JUNE 27 - 2:45 P.M.

PORTUGAL
vs.

THU. JUNE 28 - 2:45 P.M.

Quarter-Finals

SAT, JUNE 23, 2:45 P.M.

SPAIN
vs.
FRANCE

Quarter-Finals

SUN, JUNE 24, 2:45 P.M.

ENGLAND
vs.
ITALY

SUNDAY, JULY 1 - 2:45 P.M.

FINAL

VS.

Ronaldo heads Portugal into Euro 2012 semis



WARSAW : Portuguese forward Cristiano Ronaldo (C) heads to score past Czech goalkeeper Petr Cech during the quarter-final match
AFP PHOTO

WARSAW (AFP) - Cristiano Ronaldo edged a step closer to winning his first major piece of silverware with Portugal on Thursday as he scored the only goal in the 1-0 win against the Czech Republic to reach the Euro 2012 semi-final.

The Real Madrid star broke the deadlock in the 79th minute at the National Stadium in Warsaw, finding space in the area from a Joao Moutinho cross to fire a fierce header past Petr Cech. The goal was Ronaldo's third of the tournament and an indicator that Paulo Bento's Seleccion were coming to the boil after an initial group stage defeat to Germany.

And striker Nani said after the match that the team could even go all the way.

"I think if we keep on doing what is necessary we can achieve anything. We have reached the semi-final. That's a dream and we will keep on working for our goal," he said.

Attention now switches to the so-called "Derby of Debt" between Germany and Greece in the Baltic port city of Gdansk, northern Poland, on Friday, with an intensely political backdrop adding extra interest to the tie.

German Chancellor Angela Merkel, who is scheduled to attend the game, is deeply unpopular in Greece for her attempts to impose harsh austerity measures on the recession-hit nation to ease debt repayments that threaten the eurozone.

Greece have played Germany eight times but have never won and coach Fernando Santos says he is

happy for his team to be cast as underdogs, with Joachim Loew's Mannschaft one of the tournament favourites.

"If we see it from a historical point of view, David versus Goliath is a good thing for us, because ultimately Goliath lost to David," he said.

"It is something true that the size of the Germany side is really impressive, they are a good team who often make it to the semis or finals of tournaments.

"They are a very stable and concrete side, I am willing to accept the role of David... as long as history repeats itself."

Crucially though Euro 2004 champions Greece will be without talismanic captain Giorgos Karagounis, who is suspended after picking up two bookings in the group stages.

Spain, who beat Germany

in the European championship final four years ago and in the World Cup semi-finals two years later, will on Saturday be looking to end their losing record against France in major tournaments.

"Les Bleus" have been something of a bogey team for "La Roja", with France winning five and drawing one of six competitive encounters to date.

Coach Vicente Del Bosque said the country's 3-1 defeat in the 2006 World Cup is a yardstick and a warning, as they go for unprecedented back-to-back wins.

"I retain this image of the 2006 tournament -- we underestimated the French as they were getting long in the tooth. It is a very Spanish trait not to pay attention to opponents," said Del Bosque, who took over in 2008.

France, though, come into

the game in Donetsk, Ukraine, trying to downplay the angry exchanges that took place in the dressing room after their 2-0 defeat to Sweden, which ended their 23-game unbeaten run.

The last quarter-final takes place in the Ukrainian capital, Kiev, on Sunday, with England taking on Italy.

Meanwhile, Hungarian referee Viktor Kassai admitted that he should have awarded a goal to tournament co-hosts Ukraine in their final group match with England, when John Terry made an acrobatic clearance with the score at 1-0.

"After the match, we looked at and evaluated the situation. We realised straight away that we made a mistake," Kassai said on the official website of the Hungarian football federation (MLSZ).

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